Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Chesapeake, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

July 30, 2013 to August 20, 2013

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Certification

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal permitting action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:

DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Intracoastal Marine (ICM) (applicant) intends to submit a Joint Permit Application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for the issuance of an individual permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to dredge an existing barge berth located on Scuffletown Creek in the City of Chesapeake. Scuffletown Creek is a tributary to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The area is adjacent to a bulkhead that is currently used to berth barges and vessels. ICM proposes to expand its capability to handle larger barges and vessels and is planning to dredge a 1,145-foot long by 80-foot wide berth/access channel to the Southern Branch channel which will impact 115,950 square feet (2.66 acres) of state-owned bottomland. The existing average depths along the bulkhead and in the creek range between -3 feet mean low water (MLW) and -8 feet MLW. ICM proposes to mechanically dredge the material and barge it to the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area (CIDMMA) for disposal. Depending on sediment characteristics and the project economics, an alternative approved disposal location may be utilized. The applicant has submitted a Federal Consistency Certification that finds the proposed project consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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